

VZCZCXRO2593
PP RUEHDBU RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR
DE RUEHFR #5975/01 2491539
ZNY CCCCC ZZB
P 061539Z SEP 06
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1067
INFO RUEH2L/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE
RUEHC/DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WASHDC
RUCPDOC/DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE WASHDC
RUEATRS/DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 005975

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPT ALSO FOR EUR/WE, DRL/IL, INR/EUC, EUR/ERA, EUR/PPD,
AND EB
DEPT OF COMMERCE FOR ITA
DEPT OF LABOR FOR ILAB

EO 12958 DECL: 04/07/2015
TAGS PGOV, ELAB, EU, FR, PINR, SOCI, ECON
SUBJECT: INTERIOR MINISTER SARKOZY ON EVE OF HIS TRIP TO
THE U.S.

Classified By: Ambassador Craig Stapleton for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

¶1. (C) Summary: Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy told Ambassador September 5 he was "proud and honored" to be meeting with President Bush on "Proud and Honored to Meet with President Bush" -----

¶2. (C) Sarkozy underlined to the Ambassador his gratitude to the President for making room in his schedule for a meeting with Sarkozy (a drop-----

¶3. (C) Sarkozy and the Ambassador discussed the importance of Sarkozy's establishing "informal contacts" with U.S. leaders before the French presidential election. Sarkozy was "confident about his own prospects" -----

¶4. (C) Turning to French domestic politics, Sarkozy exuded confidence about his own presidential prospects. He was uncharacteristically relaxed -----

¶5. (C) Sarkozy was nearly cavalier in his dismissal of the capabilities of Poitou-Charentes Region President and Socialist Party frontrunner S PARIS 00005975 002 OF 002 presidential candidacy against his. (Comment: Ever since her emergence as a highly popular presidential contender a year ago, Royal has been un-----

An Unforgettable Scene -----

¶6. (C) As the Ambassador was about to leave, Sarkozy went to the line of floor-to-ceiling windows that open from the interior minister's office. STAPLETON -----